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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/399,753	09/21/1999	CRAIG MILLER	00479.83892	2665
7.	590 05/14/2002			
BANNER & WITCOFF ELEVENTH FLOOR 1001 G STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 200014597		, ·.	EXAMINER	
			KYLE, CHARLES R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
		, * *	3624	
			DATE MAILED: 05/14/2002	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Og/399,753 MILLER ET AL. Og/399,753 MILLER ET AL. MILLING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address — Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE of THIS COMMUNICATION. Educations of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(n). In no overs, however, may a reply be smally filled. Although the State of the may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(n). In no overs, however, may a reply be smally filled. Although the State of State of the major with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(n). In no overs, however, may a reply be smally filled. Although the State of State of the state of t							
Examiner Art Unit Charles Kylle - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE of this communication. Estatusions of the may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13(do,). In on over, however, may a reply be turnly after 51% (A) MONTH's from the mailing date of this communication. If you provide for may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13(do,). In on over, however, may a reply be turnly after 51% (A) MONTH's from the mailing date of this communication. If you provide for may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13(do,). In on over, however, may a reply be turnly after the continuous after (D) date, will be considered timely. If you provide for may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13(do,). In one over, however, may a reply be under other continuous after the mailing date of this communication. Failus to reply within the soft overhand period for reply with 5 years activated by the provision of this communication. Failus to reply within the soft overhand period for reply with 5 years and explosion to some ABMONDER (S) US. C. § 133. Any yearly received by the Office later than three mornins after the mailing date of this communication, even if simely filled, may reduce any sentence and the provision of the communication of the communication of the communication. Status Status A (Claimics)		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Charles Kyle 2164 - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address - Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. If the period for reply separate analog date of the communication is the series (%) (MONTH) from the semilog date of the semilog date	Office Action Comments	09/399,753	MILLER ET AL.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			
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1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)	Attachment(s)						
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) Notice of Informal					

Application/Control Number: 09/399,753

Art Unit: 2164

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- Claims 1-11, drawn to trading over computer networks, classified in class
 705, subclass 37.
- II. Claims 12-13, drawn to metaphoric computer objects suggesting a business environment, classified in class 345, subclass 775.
- III. Claims 14-26, drawn to a user defined collaborative environment, classified in class 709, subclass 205.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I, II and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately usable. In the instant case, each invention has separate utility as detailed above. See MPEP § 806.05(d).

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Application/Control Number: 09/399,753

Art Unit: 2164

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles Kyle whose telephone number is (703) 305-4458. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (703) 308-1065. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 746-7239 for regular communications and (703) 746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

crk

May 6, 2002

VINCENT MILLIN

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2200